

Appl. No. 09/492,361

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims in order to more clearly describe the invention. The amendment to claims 11 and 22 find their support in the Sequence Listing where SEQ ID NO: 1 encodes the polypeptide variant KCNQ4/G285S. The amendment to claims 28 and 30 corrects a multiple multiple claim~~ed~~ dependency by particularly referring to specific components of the dependant claims.

New claims 63 and 64 further limit claims 62 and 29. Support for these amendments can be found in the Sequence Listing.

No new matter has been introduced.

In view of the above remarks, all of the claims remaining in the case are submitted as defining non-obvious, patentable subject matter.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Leonard R. Svensson (Reg. No. 30,330) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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